

REMARKS

The above amendments and these remarks are responsive to the Office action dated February 24, 2004. Prior to this amendment, claims 1-34 were pending in the application, and all were rejected in the Office Action. By this Amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 16-33; amended claims 4, 7, 14, and 34; and added new claims 35-51. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and allowance of the pending claims.

Claim Objections and Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Office Action objected to claims 16, 20, 25, 31, and 33 for various informalities, and rejected claims 16-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as indefinite. However, claims 16-33 were canceled in this amendment, thereby making these objections and rejections moot. Applicants note that claims 4 and 7 have been amended to correct informalities similar to those in claim 20 that were identified in the Office Action.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejected claims 14, 15, and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by PCT-WO 01/49383 to Chung (hereinafter, Chung). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of claims 14 and 15 and have amended claim 34.

Claim 14 is allowable over Chung because it recites twin interengaged rotors, which are not disclosed or suggested by Chang. To the contrary, Chung discloses two output gears (58, 62), shown in Figures 3A and 3B, that are separated by a gear/pulley combination (48), and there is no disclosure of the two output gears ever engaging one another as recited by the term “interengaged.”

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that Chung fails to disclose or suggest twin motion coupled rotors “with one rotor driving the other rotor.” With reference to Figure 3A and

page 7, lines 8-11, it should be noted that the output gears in Chung are configured to rotate independently of each other. Accordingly, the two output gears (58, 62) fail to disclose, teach, or suggest twin motion coupled rotors operatively mounted such that one rotor drives the other rotor as recited in claim 14.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that Chung fails to anticipate claim 14 and request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a). Applicants note that claim 14 was amended in this response only to correct capitalization and spelling errors; the amendment to claim 14 was not in response to prior art. Claim 15 depends from allowable claim 14, and therefore is allowable as well. Applicants request withdrawal of the rejections of claims 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a).

Amended claim 34 is allowable because Chung fails to disclose, teach, or suggest “a portion of extended driven teeth that are longer axially than a remaining portion of driven teeth of the set.” The Office Action indicates that the recited “set of driven teeth” is disclosed by the gear teeth 65A shown in Figures 3A and 3B. Applicants respectfully submit that all the gear teeth 65A in Chung have a uniform axial dimension. Furthermore, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Chung that would lead one of ordinary skill in the art to consider that the gear teeth 65A should be anything other than uniform as shown in the figures. In light of the claim amendment and Chung’s failure to disclose, teach, or suggest a portion of extended driven teeth that are longer axially than the remaining driven teeth, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) should be withdrawn.

Double Patenting Rejections

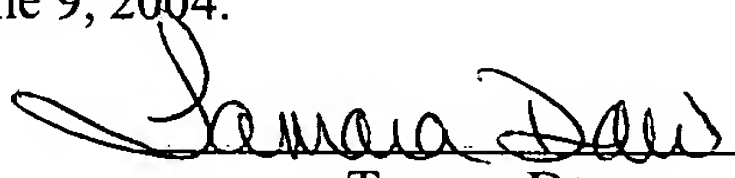
In response to the double patenting rejections based on U.S. Patent No. 6,623,327 and U.S. Patent No. 6,547,632, Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer in compliance with

37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the double patenting rejections of the claims.

Applicants believe that this application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowability covering the pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions, or if a telephonic interview would in any way advance prosecution of the application, please contact the undersigned attorney of record.

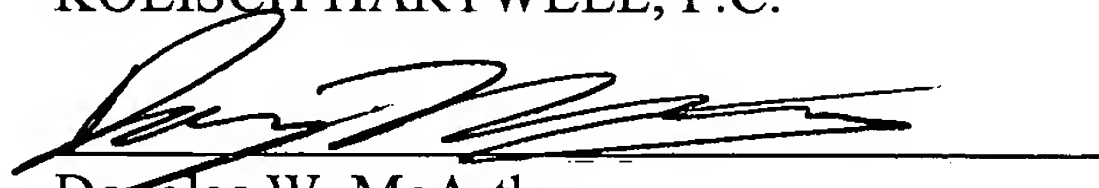
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